

San Diego Women Poise in Paint to Aid Wounded Troops

Calendar features 12 months of pin-up girls disguised in body paint.

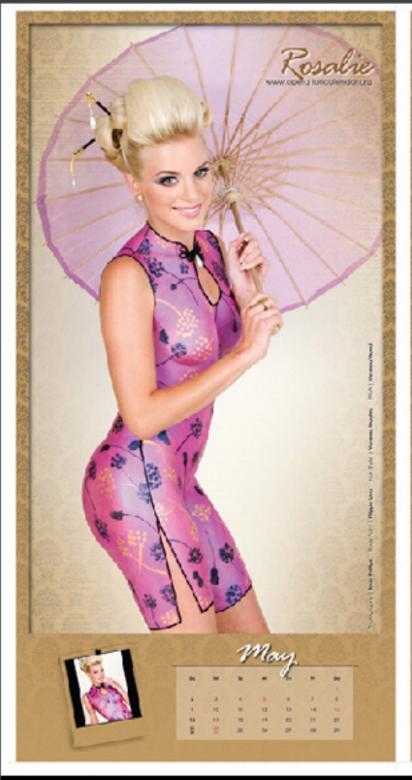
SAN DIEGO -- Supporting the troops has never been so beautiful, or so deceiving.

Appropriately named, the 2010Camouflage calendar is quite a body of work. In fact, actual bodies were the canvases used for the art featured in this decadent way to keep track of the days of the year.

Using body paint, glitter, and the occasional prop (a button here, a skirt there) body paint artist Filippo ioco has mastered the art of illusion in brilliantly painting clothing onto 12 lovely ladies. Each model sat for hours while Filippo ioco carefully decorated their bare skin. "I've painted many models all over the world, but being a part of this effort is truly special," said ioco.

The calendar is the brainchild of Italian model Manuela Mezzadri, who came up with the idea after conversations with veterans about the hardships that wounded veterans and their families can face when returning from the conflicts.

"This is the fifth year we have produced the Camouflage calendar," said Mezzadri. I feel privileged and honored to be able to show my support for our military members and their families. They certainly are deserving of any and all assistance that can be given to them, especially our wounded."





Many people volunteered their talent, energy, resources, and a tremendous amount of time in order to make Camouflage: PIN-UP a reality. Photographer and graphic designer Brian Phillips joined the Operation Calendar team. "I am honored to be able to play my part in this effort and I hope to give inspiration to those who sacrifice themselves for our freedom," said Phillips

Fifty percent of the proceeds from the 2010 calendar sales will benefit the "Warrior Foundation", a non-profit organization that provides much needed services to injured Veterans and their families.

"As 'Women helping Warriors' we are excited to team up with Operation Calendar." said Sandy Lehmkuhler, director of the Warrior Foundation. "Our goal is to send our injured Warriors home this Holiday Season; wake up in their own states, in their own beds, with their own families on Christmas Morning. We want to give them some of the flair and traditions we all so love. And this is the best medicine America can offer."

Available now online at www.operationcalendar.org, the 2010 Camouflage calendar retails for \$13.99.



